

means for storing, for each of programs of each of said channels available
5 to said users, a program information record comprising PSI (program specific
information);

means for permitting the broadcaster to include, in said PSI, channel
mapping information whose mapping designation is a program to be received
instead of a program for which said program information record is intended or a
10 channel through which said program to be received is transmitted;

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cancel.

means, responsive to a determination that PSI data for said program to be
received includes channel mapping information indicative of a third program or
channel to be received, for changing said channel mapping information such that
the mapping destination of said channel mapping information is said third program
15 or channel; and

means for inserting said program information records in broadcast transport
streams on schedule [and, if necessary, immediately after said broadcaster has
included said channel mapping information in said PSI data].

4 (Twice Amended). In a digital broadcasting system in which a
broadcasting center provides broadcast services through a plurality of physical
channels which actually transmit service programs, a method for causing one of
physical channels selected by a broadcaster to be received as one of the channels
5 available to users; the method comprising the steps of:

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storing, for each of programs of each of said channels available to said users, a program information record comprising PSI (program specific information);

including, in said PSI for a program said broadcaster desires to be received,
10 channel mapping information whose mapping destination is a [a] program to be received instead of a program for which said program information record is intended or a channel through which said program to be received is transmitted;

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if PSI data for said program to be received includes channel mapping information indicative of a third program or channel to be received, changing said
15 channel mapping information such that the mapping destination of said channel mapping information is said third program or channel; and

inserting said program information records in broadcast transport streams on schedule [and, if necessary, immediately after said broadcaster has included said channel mapping information in said PSI data].

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8/ (Amended). [A method as defined in claim 4,] In a digital broadcasting system in which a broadcasting center provides broadcast services through a plurality of physical channels which actually transmit service programs, a method for causing one of physical channels selected by a broadcaster to be received as one of the channels available to
5 users; the method comprising the steps of:

storing, for each of programs of each of said channels available to said users, a program information record comprising PSI (program specific information);

including, in said PSI for a program said broadcaster desires to be received,
channel mapping information whose mapping destination is a program to be received
10 instead of a program for which said program information record is intended or a channel
through which said program to be received is transmitted; and
inserting said program information records in broadcast transport streams on
schedule;

wherein said step of including channel mapping information comprises the step of,
15 in the event one of the currently broadcast programs [enters its highlight stage] reaches a
climax, including channel mapping information whose mapping destination is said one of
the currently broadcast programs or a channel transmitting said one of the currently
broadcast programs.

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8 (Amended). In a digital broadcasting system in which a broadcasting center
provides broadcast services through a plurality of physical channels which actually transmit
service programs, a method for causing a sequence of programs selected by a broadcaster
from the physical channels to be received as if the sequence of programs were broadcast via
5 a channel selected by a user; the method comprising the steps of:

assigning sequential channel IDs to the channels available to the users, permitting a
plurality of channel IDs to be assigned to a virtual channel comprising said sequence of

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programs such that said virtual channel appears repeatedly in a relatively short period when said channels available to the users are swept by the users;

- 10 storing, for each program of said channel selected by said user, a program
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concl. information record comprising PSI (program specific information);
including, in each of said PSIs, channel mapping information whose mapping
destination is one of said physical channels (or said service programs) to be received as said
channel for which said each of said PSIs is intended; and
- 15 inserting each of said program information records in broadcast transport streams on
schedule [and, if necessary, immediately after including said channel mapping information
in said each PSI].
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